

COUNTY COUNCIL.

(Continued from last week)

Coun. Gilmour referred to the jail as a poor job. I want to move slow and I think there is lots of time and we had better put it off till June. I think this old building is giving away, and giving out but like the C. P. R. we should use our old building until it was necessary to go ahead.

Coun. Bradley—I did not think the council should build, but now I think we should build a good building, but I would believe in getting the plans and reporting in June—I believe the walls could then be built and roof put on before the following fall. He illustrated the cost of the new brick building in Hartland which was enclosed and ready for use which began late in the season.

Coun. Melville did not see he had much chance speaking against a new court house. This was a good building. I can't believe in giving this building that carries \$5000 insurance away, and going in debt. I will vote against any resolution to build.

Coun. Phillips said this court house is a disgrace. He believed in calling for plans and specifications and reporting in June.

Coun. Balmain defending their extra session said that one week at building in June was worth more than a month in December. By passing this resolution work could be proceeded with earlier in the season. We would save the danger of frost.

Coun. Bradley—Does necessity require us to call an extra session and expend \$75 of the people's money? He was opposed to the provision for the extra session.

Coun. Stevens—We have three good men on the building committee and I do not see why authority could not be given for the preparing the foundation to that committee. If I should have the honor of representing Woodstock at next year I would like to meet in a new court house.

Coun. Gilmour moved an amendment seconded by Coun. Bradley.

Resolved that we instruct the building committee to procure plans and specifications and estimate cost of a court house in the town of Woodstock and submit it to the council at June meeting.

Coun. Gilmour said that now the town was paying off its indebtedness he was not opposed to moving the court house. I wouldn't spend any more in this old building but I would believe in waiting till June.

Coun. J. R. Brown—did not think the argument against a special session would lose by having work done in the late fall which could be done in the early summer.

Coun. Bradley—Spoke of the sacrifices the councillors had to make in coming to a special session. If necessity called for this he would not object, he could live if the building was not finished next fall.

Coun. Bell (Richmond) If we have the county at heart, we could come here one day at our own expenses, we could then get to work sooner and set the building up.

Coun. Bell—I am in favor of a special session. I should enlarge the building committee and give them full powers.

Coun. Owens was opposed to the court house, but he found the rate-payers said we should have the court house and I think we could lose one day in coming here in March.

Coun. Williams—21 years ago I came in as a county councillor, and since that time I have opposed the building of a court house, but my constituents have told me not to wait any longer. Although I am not in favor of calling a special session unless the councillors will come free. I am for a new court house in town.

Coun. Estey—I voted against the new court house, but, now, the time is ripe. We don't want to rush, but we want to consider the things well. I do not favor a special session.

Coun. King had been against the court house, but if it was well to build the court house at once he was willing to sacrifice one day.

Coun. Connolly favored the amendment. He did not see any great hurry even if the building was not put up next summer.

Coun. Tompkins—I have not changed my view. I don't consider we have been in haste. We know we need to build a court house, and now I find looking the situation over, I think if we have the special session we will save in our material and in our labor; a man cannot work as well in winter and fall as in summer. This old building is becoming an expensive luxury.

Coun. Kinney—It is the mind of the council to build the court house.

He believed in a special session and getting the work on rapidly. He was not against a special session. Much more would be saved in the end.

Coun. Rideout said last year he was against a new court house, but the time is now ripe and he favored a new court house, and he would favor the early session if the council meant business. He would favor an early session and would be willing to come without pay.

The vote on the amendment was then taken, those voting yea being Couns. Estey, Owens, Williams, Phillips, Gilmour, Shaw, Bradley, and Connolly.

Rest of the council voted nay. Amendment lost.

Original motion was then carried.

Coun. Bull moved that the councillors come to the special meeting without pay.

Seconded by Coun. Lamont and carried.

Coun. Connolly did not believe in the councillors coming free. They were entitled to be paid for their services.

Coun. Connolly gave notice of a motion for June session that by law 28 be changed so that the councillors be paid \$3.00 a day instead of \$2.00.

Coun. Williams moved seconded by Coun. A. Brown that the by-law as to the composition of the building committee be amended so it be composed of five instead of three members. Carried.

The warden was named a member of the committee and Coun. Stevens was also so appointed.

Moved by Coun. Gilmour seconded by Coun. Kinney:—

Resolved that in the opinion of this Municipal Council of Carleton.

It is the wish of the people of Carleton County to pay their road taxes by Statute Labor.

This council hereby petition the Legislature at its next session to reenact the Highway act of A D 1896 to apply and be in force in the County of Carleton.

Amended as follows: Section 31, (1). Instead of the rate therein 12½ cents on each \$100.00 valuation in the parish assessment.

Section 46:—Instead of 50 cents for 8 hours labor, the allowance to be 15 cents per hour actual labor, with appliances for labor in said section.

Instead of \$1.00 per day for one horse, competent driver, and appliances as aforesaid, the allowance be 20 cents per hour.

Instead of \$1.50 per day for two horses, competent driver, and appliances as aforesaid, the allowance be 25 cents per hour. That the appointing of Commissioners, Road Masters, and dividing the parishes as in section 28, (1) (3) (4), stand as in said act of 1896.

That the Secretary Treasurer prepare a petition embodying the foregoing resolution and forward the same to the proper authority.

Coun. Stevens moved that Scott Act Inspectors salary be same as last year.

Coun. Melville thought that the report this year was the worst we ever had. He had supported Mr. Colpitts right along but it was reported to him that he had not come to certain places notably Bridgewater, when he had been required.

Motion carried.

Coun. Melville moved a resolution calling upon Mr. Colpitts to resign.

Coun. Tompkins seconded the motion.

Coun. Connolly—I believe Mr. Colpitts has filled the office well, but now I think his hearing is impaired and I do not think he is the man for the work now.

Coun. Gilmour thought Mr. Colpitts should resign. He had done good work in his day but it was time for him to resign.

Coun. Flemming did not believe Mr. Colpitts was pleasing the people and he thought he should resign.

Coun. Lamont—He did not go for the dismissal of Mr. Colpitts because of deficit, but because he did not give a good service.

Coun. Stevens said that every year there had been fault found with the present Inspector, such will be the case. Mr. Colpitts was first in the town. A change was made, but dissatisfaction was expressed. He was re-appointed still dissatisfaction. He was asked to resign and Mr. Lindsay was appointed, still dissatisfaction. He was roasted as you know who attended at the last town meeting. Inspectors in other counties could not satisfy the public. Mr. Colpitts had a large and valuable experience. He did not believe you could improve conditions and he was against the dismissal of Mr. Colpitts.

Coun. Bradley agreed with Mr. Stevens that Inspector Colpitts experience offset his infirmity as to hearing. If we got a new man we would have to educate him and that would be an expensive business. Mr. Colpitts has never flunked from his duty. He has done honor to the county and has been true to his work and deserves the support of all advocates of temperance. He would favor an assistant to Inspector Colpitts but we would make a mistake in putting out the Inspector.

Coun. Bell (Richmond)—I have always stood for Mr. Colpitts, but when we get a petition such as has been presented here from the residents along the boundary and nothing is done, I believe Mr. Colpitts should resign. I believe we can get a man who will clean out this boundary line business.

Coun. Balmain—The people who are ready to find fault with Mr. Colpitts give information, but they must not be mixed up in the matter. It is very hard to do this work. As has been said the telephone is a means to help out the violations of the law. I think it would have been more manly if Mr. Colpitts had been consulted. He has been Inspector for a good many years. He did not think the salary was sufficient inducement for a good man to take hold of this work as it should be done.

Coun. Flemming thought that if the offenders were told or taught that for a third

offence there would be imprisonment the law would be enforced. He did not believe in making settlement as in the Perkins case. As long as this state of affairs exists that a man can get out with paying money the business will be carried on.

Coun. Lamont said that Coun. Balmain had spoken of the more manly course. He had privately spoken to Mr. Colpitts. He respected him but he thought he was unable to do the work any more.

Coun. Gilmour—The people in my district sell liquor all winter, and the Inspector comes in the spring and collects his share.

Coun. Melville said the temperance people are making a kick. As to being manly those who believed in a change had tried to deal as lightly as possible with Mr. Colpitts. As to his experience we did not pay Mr. Colpitts for advice. He got advice from a legal advisor. He believed a new man would deal well with the matter. Mr. Colpitts is not Inspector of the town. He was dismissed. His work is not in Woodstock. He thought a new man appointed now would gain experience and be in a condition to carry on the work, when in the course of nature, Mr. Colpitts was necessarily removed. The affairs of the county do not so particularly effect the people of the town as they do those of the county. Business has grown, there are more rum-sellers than before. Mr. Colpitts does not give all his time.

Mr. Colpitts—I did last year.

Coun. Melville then said it was a poor argument that the act could not be enforced because the Police Magistrate was sick. There are other magistrates.

Coun. King—Does Mr. Bell know of another man who would do the work?

Coun. Bell (Richmond)—I could tell you later.

Coun. Williams—I have always stood up for Mr. Colpitts, but I notice there is a call that it is time for a change. This year the same cry is made. I don't know of any liquor being sold in our parish. Mr. Colpitts told us some time ago that if the bonded warehouse were removed, matters at the boundary would be better but they are not.

Coun. Phillips—I believe Mr. Colpitts has done the best he could to enforce the act. The town of Woodstock has made a change and I venture to say they have not gained much.

Coun. Rideout—We made a recommendation that imprisonment be imposed for the first offence and I do not know of one case in which this was done. I have sympathy for Mr. Colpitts but I think we must have a change.

On Coun. Melville's motion that the Inspector be asked to resign, the following vote was given:—Couns. Brown, Woodstock; Estey, Owens, Keenan, Lamont, King, Williams, Bull, Flemming, Bell, Wakefield; Gilmour, Rideout, Shaw, Simonds; Connolly, Tompkins, Melville, Hay, Bell, Richmond; Nays:—Balance of council.

Coun. Stevens—We were satisfied in the town of Woodstock with Mr. Colpitts. He was never removed. He resigned because he could not attend to both. I remember where attempts were made to down Mr. Colpitts on his accounts years ago and he never came out at the worst end.

Resolution was carried.

Mr. Colpitts, wished to say to the council that it was a misstatement made that the Thompsons had a mortgage on his property. That was never the case. He had never to borrow from rum-sellers and hoped he never did. I know there are temptations put in the way of men. I have not hard feelings in this matter.

Coun. Melville—What do you mean to do about this motion.

Inspector—I cannot resign. I admit your right to dismiss me, but it is putting me in a hard position just now. We have the opportunity now of putting down the beer since the Judge's decision. We also have the right to prohibit liquor coming into this county. I have been up to the boundary line much more often than people know of. There has been effectual work done. I know

(Concluded on third page.)

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He writes concerning Peruna. Read his letter below:

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